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DROITWICH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

INCLUDING THE REPORT OF

THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1946.



TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE DROITWICH RURAL DISTRICT  
COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health of the Rural District for the year 1946.

The report is divided into the following sections :--

- A. Statistics and Social Conditions of the area.
- B. General Provision of Health Services for the area.
- C. Sanitary Circumstances of the area.
- D. Housing.
- E. Inspection and Supervision of Food.
- F. Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious Disease.

SECTION "A"

STATISTICS & SOCIAL CONDITIONS  
OF THE AREA.

|   |     |     |     |     |           |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------|
| Area (in acres)   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 51,453.   |
| Number of inhabited houses (end of 1946)<br>according to Rate Books | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3828.     |
| Rateable Value  | ... | ... | ... | ... | £ 80,922. |
| Sum represented by one penny rate                                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | £351.9.2. |
| Registrar General's estimate of resident<br>population (mid 1946)   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12,200    |

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

| <u>Live Births.</u> | <u>Total.</u> | <u>Male.</u> | <u>Female.</u> |
|---------------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|
| Legitimate          | 204.          | 120.         | 84.            |
| Illegitimate        | 19.           | 8.           | 11.            |
| Total               | 223.          | 128.         | 95.            |

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population 18.2

Birth Rate for England and Wales for the  
same period 19.1

| <u>Stillbirths.</u> | <u>Total.</u> | <u>Male.</u> | <u>Female.</u> |
|---------------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|
| Legitimate          | 2.            | 1.           | 1.             |
| Illegitimate        | Nil.          | Nil.         | Nil.           |
| Total               | 2.            | 1.           | 1.             |



| <u>Deaths.</u> | <u>Total.</u> | <u>Male.</u> | <u>Female.</u> |
|----------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|
|                | 132.          | 61.          | 71.            |

Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population 10.8

Death Rate for England and Wales 11.5

Death of Infants under One Year of Age.

|              | <u>Total</u> | <u>Male.</u> | <u>Female.</u> |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| Legitimate   | 9.           | 7.           | 1.             |
| Illegitimate | 2.           | 2.           | —.             |
| Total        | 10.          | 9.           | 1.             |

Infantile Mortality Rate for the Year 44.8

Infantile Mortality Rate for England and Wales for the same period 43

Deaths from Special Causes. 1945. 1946.

Deaths from Cancer 17. 21.

Deaths from Measles Nil. Nil.

Deaths from Whooping Cough 1. Nil.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) 2. 1.

Causes of Deaths. Males. Females.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis .2. 4.

Other forms of Tuberculosis 2. 1.

Influenza —. 3.

Cancer 9. 12.

Diabetes 2. —.

Cerebral Haemorrhage 7. 10.

Heart Disease 10. 14.

Other Circulatory Diseases 1. 4.

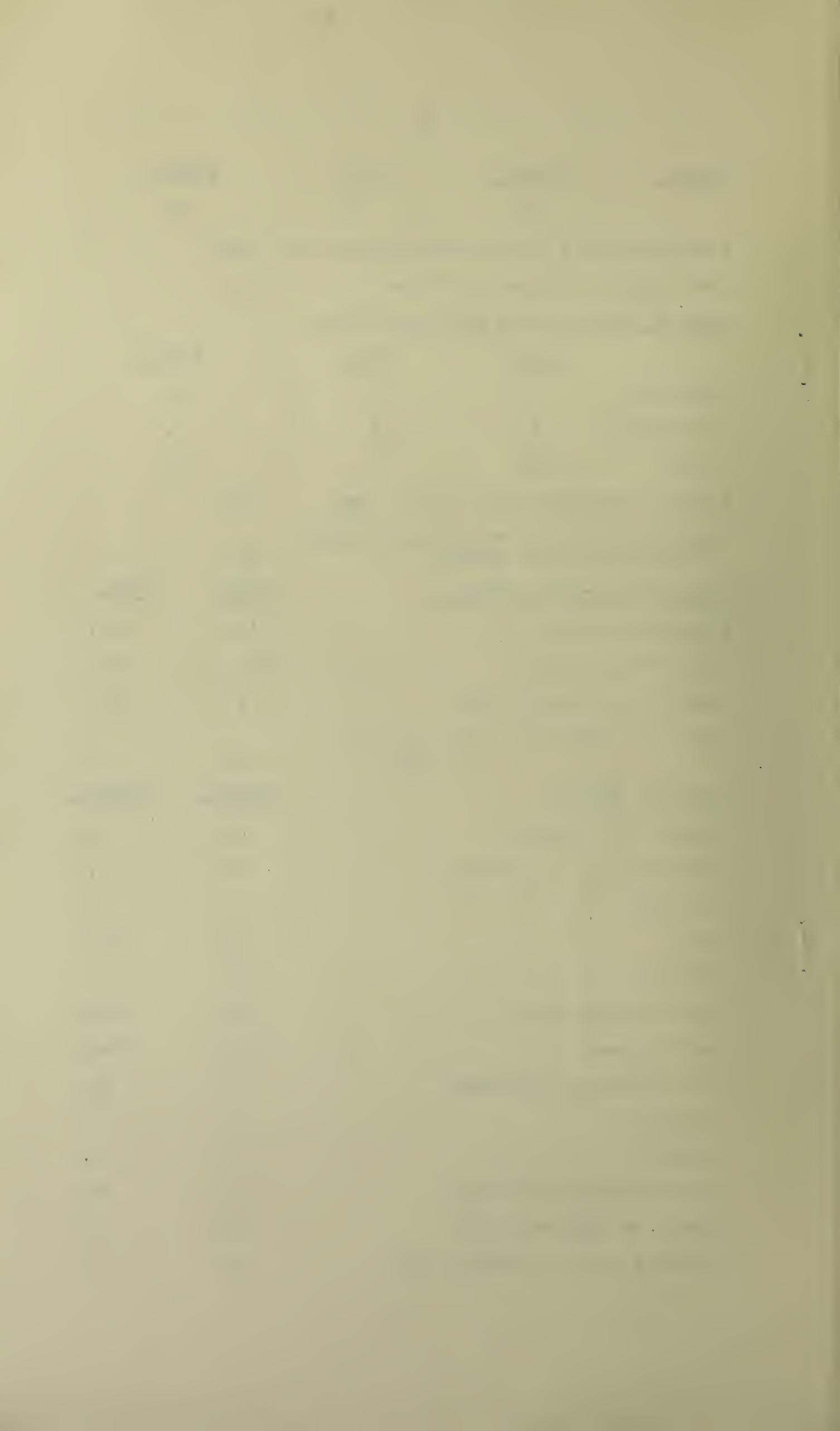
Bronchitis 5. 6.

Pneumonia 2. 1.

Other Respiratory Diseases 1. 2.

Gastric or duodenal ulcer 1. —.

Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) 1. —.



| <u>Causes of Death.</u>                                     | <u>Males.</u> | <u>Females.</u> |
|---|---------------|-----------------|
| Appendicitis  | 1.            | -.              |
| Other digestive diseases                                    | 2.            | 3.              |
| Nephritis   | 2.            | 5.              |
| Diseases associated with childbirth                         | -.            | -.              |
| Prematurity, congenital malformations<br>and birth injuries | 4.            | 1.              |
| Road Traffic Accidents                                      | 3.            | -.              |
| Suicide   | -.            | -.              |

### SECTION "B"

#### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

##### a) Public Health Officers of the Authority.

|                               |   |  |
|-------------------------------|---|--|
| Medical Officer of Health     | - | Margaret C. Fell,<br>M.B., CH.F., D.P.H., D.C.H.         |
| Surveyor & Sanitary Inspector | - | R. F. Fry, M.R.San.I.,<br>M.S.I.A., A.M.Inst.P.C.        |
| Additional Sanitary Inspector | - | D. G. Carter, M.R.San.I.,<br>M.S.I.A. (Appointed 8/7/46) |

##### b) Laboratory Services.

These are provided at the County Council's Laboratory in Worcester.

##### c) Ambulance Service.

The district is served by the Droitwich and District Ambulance Association for cases of accident or general illness.

Infectious cases are removed to hospital in an ambulance provided by the Isolation Hospital authorities.

##### d) Nursing in the home.

Nursing services are provided by the local District Nursing Associations.

Seven District Nurse-Midwives are working in the rural district.

These nurses also undertake the duties of Health Visitors under the County Council.

##### e) Hospitals.

Cases of infectious disease needing hospital treatment are removed to Hill Top Isolation Hospital, Bromsgrove.







Cases of Tuberculosis are admitted to Knightwick Sanatorium and Hill Top Isolation Hospital.

Treatment for cases of Venereal disease is provided by the County Council.

E) Clinics.

The district is served by the County Council's Infant Welfare Clinics at Droitwich, Worcester, Ombersley and Stourport and antenatal clinics at Worcester, Droitwich and Stourport.

New Infant Welfare Centres at Cutnall Green and Crowle were opened during the year.

SECTION "C"

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The parish of North Claines and parts of St. Martin County, Warndon and Hindlip are supplied by water purchased by the Council in bulk from the County Borough of Worcester and distributed through the Council's mains.

The number of properties so served is 421. A booster plant is employed to supply the village of Fernhill Heath and this continued to function efficiently during the year.

The parishes of Dodderhill, Upton Warren and part of the parish of Hadzor are supplied from the mains of the East Worcestershire Waterworks Company, as they lie within the statutory limits of the Company's area of supply.

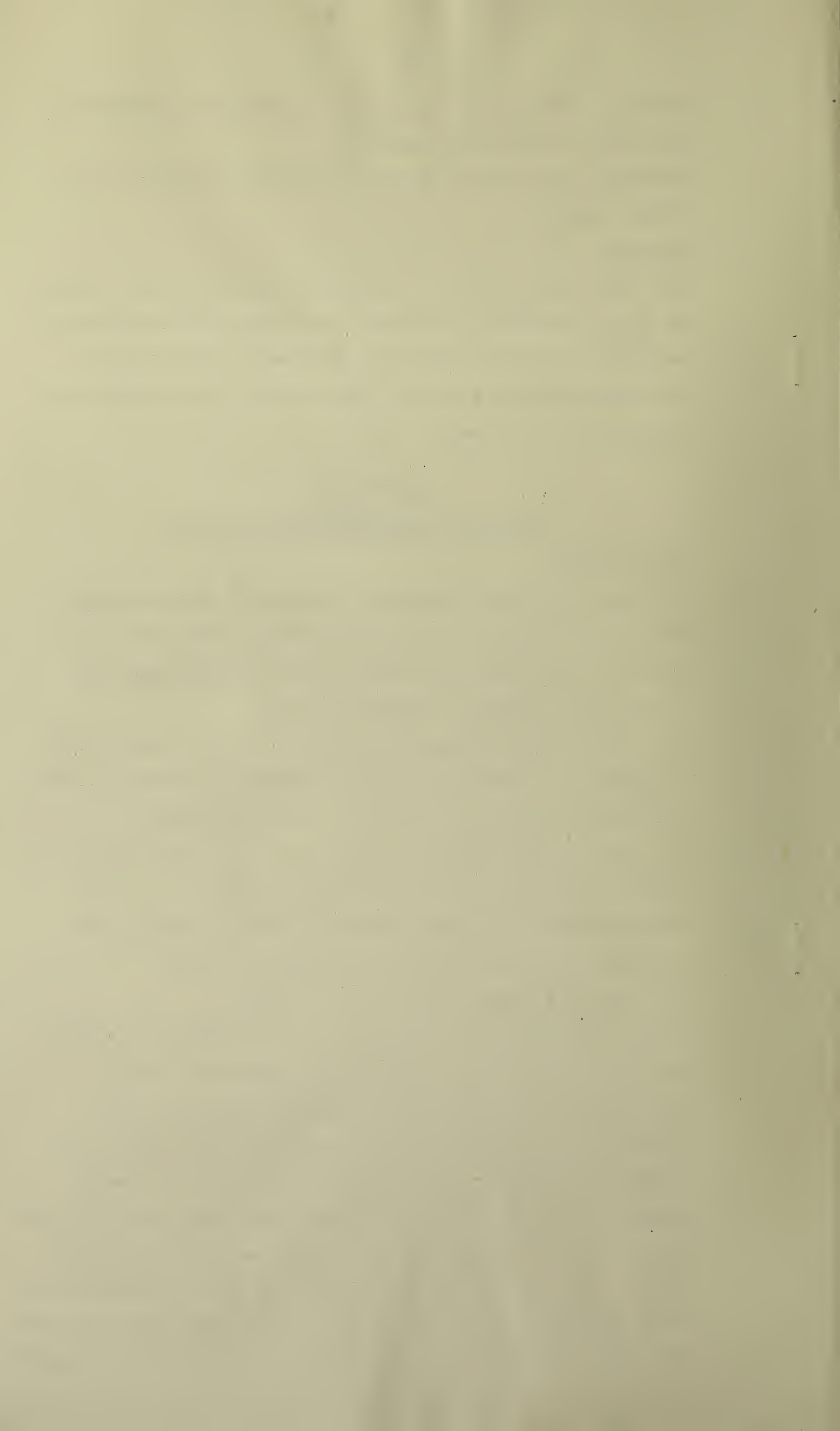
The number of properties so served is 280.

Sixty properties within the parish of Hartlebury are served with piped water from a borehole in private ownership.

This supply again proved to be adequate during the year.

A small number of properties in the Summerfield area of the Hartlebury parish are served from the Kidderminster mains.

Apart from those parishes mentioned above, the remainder of the rural district derives its water supply mainly from shallow wells. West of the Doverdale fault and in an area amounting to approximately one third of the district these are sunk into the Keuper sandstone and generally the supply has been adequate.



East of the Doverdale fault the wells are sunk into the over lying marl and at the extreme south east of the district into the lias.

In these areas the supply is capricious both in quality and quantity.

The position in Crowle and Hanbury in particular causes anxiety.

#### Drainage & Sewerage.

The Council's Consulting Engineer was engaged during the year on preparing plans for the most urgent sewerage problems of the district, namely the villages of Hartlebury, Ombersley, Crowle and Wychbold.

#### Housing

#### SECTION "D"

Numerous complaints are being received about cases of overcrowding and insanitary houses in the district and it is hoped that it will be possible to deal with these satisfactorily as the building of new dwellings proceeds.

Exact figures with regard to overcrowding are not available at present, but the survey of all houses in the district, below a rateable value of £26 which was begun in 1945 - was continued during the year and when the results of this survey are known it is hoped that much valuable information about the housing conditions in the district will be available.

#### SECTION "E"

#### Inspection and Supervision of Food.

This work was carried out as usual by the Sanitary Inspectors during the year.

#### Adulteration of Foods.

Mr. Spencer, Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures, Worcestershire County Council reports that 62 samples of milk were taken for analysis in the district during the year. One of these samples of milk was found to contain extraneous water and the vendor was prosecuted.



SECTION "F"PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Number of children immunised against diphtheria during the year :-

|                        |     |     |      |
|------------------------|-----|-----|------|
| 1) Pre-school children | ... | ... | 160. |
| 2) School Children     | ... | ... | 30.  |
| Total                  | ... | ... | 190. |

At the end of 1946 the percentage of the child population immunised in the groups 0 - 5 years and 5 - 15 years was estimated to be 50% and 82% respectively.

Notifiable Disease.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year are shown in the following table :-

|                          | Total cases<br>Notified | Cases admitted<br>to Hospitals. | Deaths. |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|---------|
| Scarlet Fever            | 20.                     | 16.                             | -.      |
| Measles                  | 24.                     | 1.                              | -.      |
| Acute Polio-Encephalitis | 1.                      | 1.                              | -.      |
| Acute Primary Pneumonia  | 2.                      | -.                              | -.      |
| Diphtheria               | 5.                      | 5.                              | -.      |
| Whooping Cough           | 21.                     | -.                              | -.      |
| Erysipelas               | 5.                      | 1.                              | -.      |
| Puerperal Fever          | 1.                      | -.                              | -.      |
| Anterior Poliomyelitis   | 1.                      | 1.                              | -.      |
| Meningococcal Meningitis | 2.                      | 2.                              | -.      |

| Parish.             | Scarlet<br>Fever | Diphtheria | Measles | Whooping<br>-Cough. |
|---------------------|------------------|------------|---------|---------------------|
| North Claines       | 9.               | 2.         | 2.      | 2.                  |
| St. Martin Co.      | 3.               | -.         | 2.      | -.                  |
| Hindlip.            | 1.               | -.         | -.      | 4.                  |
| Martin Hussingtree. | 1.               | -.         | -.      | -.                  |
| Ombersley.          | 1.               | 1.         | -.      | -.                  |
| Hartlebury.         | 1.               | -.         | 2.      | 8.                  |
| Oddingley.          | 1.               | -.         | 6.      | 3.                  |
| Crowle.             | -.               | 1.         | 1.      | -.                  |
| Elmbridge.          | -.               | 1.         | -.      | -.                  |
| Dodderhill.         | -.               | -.         | 2.      | 1.                  |
| Tibberton.          | -.               | -.         | 3.      | -.                  |
| Salwarpe.           | -.               | -.         | 1.      | -.                  |
| Hambury.            | -.               | -.         | 1.      | -.                  |
| Himbleton.          | -.               | -.         | 4.      | -.                  |
| Upton Warren.       | -.               | -.         | -.      | 3.                  |
| Totals.             | 20.              | 5.         | 24.     | 21.                 |





| Parish.        | Erysipelas. | Acute Polio-<br>Encephalitis | Puerperal<br>Fever | Acute<br>Primary<br>Pneumonia |
|----------------|-------------|------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| St. Martin Co. | 1.          | 1.                           | -.                 | -.                            |
| Ombersley.     | 1.          | -.                           | -.                 | -.                            |
| Elmbridge.     | 1.          | -.                           | -.                 | -.                            |
| Dodderhill.    | 1.          | -.                           | -.                 | -.                            |
| Salwarpe.      | 1.          | -.                           | -.                 | -.                            |
| Hartlebury.    | -.          | -.                           | 1.                 | 2.                            |
| Totals.        | 5.          | 1.                           | 1.                 | 2.                            |

| Parish.         | Anterior Poliomyelitis. | Meningococcal<br>Meningitis |
|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Dodderhill.     | 1.                      | -.                          |
| St. Martins Co. | -.                      | 2.                          |
| Totals.         | 1.                      | 2.                          |

#### TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Deaths notified during 1945 (excluding transferred deaths).

| NEW CASES.  |    |                  |    | DEATHS.      |     |                  |    |
|---|----|------------------|----|--------------|-----|------------------|----|
| Respiratory.  |    | Non-Respiratory. |    | Respiratory. |     | Non-Respiratory. |    |
| M.  | F. | M.               | F. | M.           | F.  | M.               | F. |
| 4.  | 5. | 4.               | 2. | 1.           | 2.  | 2.               | 1. |
| Cases remaining on Register<br>at End of December 1945. |    |                  |    | Pulmonary.   |     | Non-Pulmonary.   |    |
|   |    |                  |    | M.           | F.  | M.               | F. |
|   |    |                  |    | 23.          | 23. | 6.               | 4. |
| Cases remaining on Register<br>at End of December 1945. |    |                  |    | 21.          | 25. | 5.               | 3. |

I am, Mr. Chairman & Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

MARGARET C. FELL.

Medical Officer of Health.





DROITWICH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT 1946.

Mr. Chairman & Gentlemen,

I beg to submit a report upon the work of your Sanitary Inspector & Surveyor's Department for the year ended 31st December 1946.

The work of the Department during the year was mainly concentrated on housing. The Housing Survey was well in hand and 75% of it completed. By the end of the year 2 council houses had been completed, 48 houses were under construction and a contract for the erection of 10 houses at Dilmore Avenue, Fernhill Heath had been settled. Sites were being acquired at Wychbold, Hartlebury and Tibberton.

The Council had decided to prepare detailed sewerage schemes for the parishes of Crowle, Ombersley, Hartlebury and Dodderhill following a general report upon the necessity for sewerage schemes for the district.

Investigations into the possibilities of piped water supplies were undertaken, but progress in this matter was slow.

On the whole, the period under review was one of heavy pressure of work and I was glad to have the services of Mr. D. G. Carter who was appointed to the staff on July 8th. 1946.

For ease of reference the report is divided into the following categories, namely :-

|                              |            |          |
|------------------------------|------------|----------|
| General                      | paragraphs | 1 & 2.   |
| Sanitary Inspection          | "          | 3 & 4.   |
| Rat Destruction              | "          | 5.       |
| River Pollution              | "          | 6.       |
| Housing                      | "          | 7 - 12.  |
| Water Supplies               | "          | 13 - 14. |
| Sewerage & sewage disposal   | "          | 15 - 17. |
| Food Inspection              | "          | 18 - 30. |
| Refuse Collection & Disposal | "          | 31 - 34. |
| Petroleum Acts               | "          | 35.      |



General.

1. In addition to general sanitary and housing duties the Department is responsible for the administration of your Byelaws in respect to new buildings, interim development planning, the maintenance of the Council's property, the supervision of public water supplies, sewers and sewage disposal plants and the collection and disposal of household refuse.
2. The staff employed during the year was as follows :-
  - One Sanitary Inspector & Surveyor.
  - One Additional Sanitary Inspector (commenced 8/7/46)
  - One Clerk of Works.
  - One Water Inspector.
  - Two Clerks.
  - Eight Manual Workers.

Sanitary Inspection.

3. Inspections made during the year were :-

|  |     |     |       |
|--|-----|-----|-------|
| Housing (Public Health & Housing Acts)           | ... | ... | 2122. |
| Complaints investigated                          | ... | ... | 51.   |
| Drainage including water, colour and smoke tests | ... | ... | 60.   |
| Rivers Pollution                                 | ... | ... | 2.    |
| Water Supplies                                   | ... | ... | 45.   |
| Sewage Disposal Plants                           | ... | ... | 19.   |
| Rat & Mice Infestation                           | ... | ... | 52.   |
| Infectious Disease                               | ... | ... | 21.   |
| Food Inspection                                  | ... | ... | 9.    |
| Bakehouses                                       | ... | ... | 6.    |
| Cafes  | ... | ... | 3.    |
| Milk & Dairies                                   | ... | ... | 26.   |
| Meat Inspection                                  | ... | ... | 2.    |
| Camping Sites                                    | ... | ... | 12.   |
| Refuse Tips                                      | ... | ... | 18.   |

4. The improvements effected under the Public Health Acts are set out below. The majority of the work was achieved by negotiation or preliminary notice, but formal notice was served in 2 cases.

|                                      |     |     |     |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| Dampness in houses abated            | ... | ... | 7.  |
| Wells cleansed and repaired          | ... | ... | 12. |
| Drains repaired or relaid            | ... | ... | 30. |
| Drains cleansed                      | ... | ... | 31. |
| Defective sanitary fittings replaced | ... | ... | 7.  |
| Defective cesspools repaired         | ... | ... | 8.  |
| Offensive accumulations removed      | ... | ... | 1.  |
| Disinfections                        | ... | ... | 21. |
| Disinfestations                      | ... | ... | 1.  |



Rat Destruction.

5. During the year the arrangement whereby the services of the Rat Catcher employed by the Bromsgrove U.D.C., were available to the Council was continued.

Three infestations occurring on private properties were dealt with in addition to the surveying and treating of the Council's refuse tips, sewage disposal works and sewerage systems.

The Housing Inspectors again recorded rat infestations discovered in the course of the housing survey.

Towards the end of the year, Bromsgrove U.D.C., found it impossible to spare their operator and as a result it was not possible to deal with all the infestations.

To overcome the difficulty one of the Housing Inspectors was appointed part time Rat Catcher, to become full-time on completion of the Housing Survey.

The County War Agricultural Executive Committee co-operated with the Council's operator by dealing with the fields adjoining the tips while treatment was being carried out.

River Pollution.

6. Co-operation with the County Council in preventing the pollution of streams was maintained during the year and two cases were dealt with.

HOUSING.

7. Housing Survey.

In common with all rural districts throughout the country and in order to implement the recommendations of the Hobhouse Report on Rural Housing a systematic survey of all houses in the district below a rateable value of £25 was continued during the year.

Briefly, the object of the survey is to ascertain the state of repair of the houses in rural districts and the houses upon inspection are fitted in these categories :-







Category 1 - houses fit in all respects.

" 2 - houses requiring minor repairs.

" 3 - houses requiring structural alterations.

" 4 - unfit houses beyond repair at a reasonable cost.

Special note is made of overcrowded houses and houses suitable for reconditioning with the aid of a grant under the former Housing (Rural Workers) Acts.

When the survey is complete it will reveal the number of new houses necessary to replace those beyond repair and the amount of repair work required to bring the other houses to a satisfactory condition.

In addition, a complete record of the accommodation, amenities and state of repair of all working class property in the rural district will be available for the first time.

Result of inspections up to 31st December 1946 is as follows :-

| Parish.         | Houses Inspected | Classification of Houses. |      |      |      | Houses suitable for action under HSG(Rural Workers) Acts |
|-----------------|------------------|---------------------------|------|------|------|--|
|                 |                  | 1.                        | 2.   | 3.   | 4.   |  |
| Upton Warren.   | 75.              | 35.                       | 22.  | 10.  | 7.   | -.   |
| Elmbridge.      | 92.              | 34.                       | 36.  | 17.  | 5.   | -.   |
| Hampton Lovett  | 48.              | 37.                       | 8.   | 2.   | 1.   | -.   |
| Elmley Lovett   | 76.              | 31.                       | 18.  | 10.  | 17.  | -.   |
| Doverdale       | 12.              | 6.                        | 3.   | 1.   | 2.   | -.   |
| Ombersley       | 502.             | 174.                      | 142. | 125. | 61.  | 17 No.3.   |
| Hartlebury      | 522.             | 235.                      | 126. | 95.  | 66.  | 6 "  |
| Claines         | 422.             | 271.                      | 79.  | 47.  | 25.  | 3 "  |
| Stock & Bradley | 65.              | 19.                       | 29.  | 14.  | 3.   | 2 "  |
| Crowle          | 142.             | 48.                       | 32.  | 37.  | 25.  | 4 "  |
| Oddingley       | 54.              | 30.                       | 12.  | 10.  | 2.   | -.   |
| Huddington      | 22.              | 6.                        | 5.   | 6.   | 5.   | -.   |
| Himbleton       | 93.              | 23.                       | 35.  | 22.  | 13.  | -.   |
| St.Martins Co.  | 53.              | 34.                       | 10.  | 4.   | 5.   | -.   |
| Warndon.        | 22.              | 5.                        | 3.   | 8.   | 6.   | 1 No.3.  |
| Hadzor.         | 38.              | 24.                       | 7.   | 7.   | -.   | -.   |
| Hanbury.        | 208.             | 54.                       | 62.  | 55.  | 37.  | 2 No.3.  |
| Tibberton.      | 2.               | -.                        | 2.   | -.   | -.   | -.   |
| Total           | 2448.            | 1067.                     | 631. | 470. | 280. | 35.  |



8. New Houses.Completed during the year :-

|                                   |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Council Houses                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2.  |
| Private development under licence | ... |     |     |     | 25. |

Under Construction 31st December 1946 :-

|                                   |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Council Houses                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | 48. |
| Private development under licence | ... |     |     |     | 22. |

9. The total number of plans dealt with during the year amounted to 91. Of these, 88 were approved and 3 rejected for planning reasons.
10. There were 8 sites for temporary dwellings licenced allowing a permitted number of 410 dwellings.
11. The licenced camping grounds mainly situated near the River Severn were fully occupied during the holiday periods and were inspected for contraventions of byelaws. A number of such contraventions were observed and remedied by negotiation.
12. Civil Building Licences.

During the year under review 382 licences were issued, the total value of work authorised being as follows :-

|                    |     |     |     |     |                      |
|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------------------|
| Housing            | ... | ... | ... | ... | £76, 051.            |
| Other than Housing | ... |     |     | ... | £ 4, 255.            |
|                    |     |     |     |     | <hr/> £80,306. <hr/> |

WATER SUPPLIES

13. General maintenance and routine inspections of the Council's works and mains were carried out during the year and a total of 25 new connections were made to the mains.
14. Sampling of private supplies was continued and the results are shown below :-

| Date.    | Address.                              | Source of Supply. | Result. |
|----------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|---------|
| 2/1/46.  | Briarfield Farm, Tibberton.           | Well.             | Unfit.  |
| 7/1/46.  | 1 Fern Villas, Fernhill Heath.        | "                 | Fit.    |
| 14/1/46. | Hinchley Cottage, Cutnall Green.      | "                 | Unfit.  |
| 17/1/46. | In field at Church Farm,<br>Elmbridge | Spring.           | Fit.    |
| 14/2/46. | Cutnall Green School                  | Well.             | Unfit.  |
| 16/4/46. | No. 2 Hanbury Wharf Brick Co.         | "                 | Fit.    |



| Date.     | Address.  | Source of Supply. | Result. |
|-----------|---|-------------------|---------|
| 16/4/46.  | Himbleton (New well)                                | Well              | Fit.    |
| 17/4/46.  | Hinchley Cottage, Cutnall Green.                    | "                 | Fit.    |
| 17/4/46.  | Moat House, Cutnall Green.                          | "                 | Fit.    |
| 29/4/46.  | Hadzor Rectory, Oddingley.                          | "                 | Fit.    |
| 29/4/46.  | No: 2 Cottages, Chadwick Hill.                      | "                 | Fit.    |
| 30/5/46.  | Rose Cottage, Fernhill Heath.                       | "                 | Unfit.  |
| 28/6/46.  | Turn Mill Farmhouse, Ombersley.                     | "                 | Unfit.  |
| 4/7/46.   | Camp Cottage, Bevere.                               | "                 | Fit.    |
| 11/7/46.  | Sunnyside, Stock Green.                             | "                 | Unfit.  |
| 15/7/46.  | Gough, Dunhampton.                                  | "                 | Fit.    |
| 16/7/46.  | Tranter, Foredraught Lane,<br>Tibberton             | "                 | Fit.    |
| 22/7/46.  | Henbrook Cottages, Wychbold.                        | "                 | Unfit.  |
| 23/7/46.  | Cornshire Cottages, Elmbridge.                      | "                 | Unfit.  |
| 25/7/46.  | The Bungalow, Pershore Lane,<br>Martin Hussingtree. | "                 | Unfit.  |
| 27/8/46.  | Blacksmith's Shop, Hampton Lovett                   | "                 | Unfit.  |
| 5/9/46.   | Gittins, Sale Green.                                | "                 | Unfit.  |
| 25/9/46.  | Netherwood Cottage, Oddingley.                      | "                 | Unfit.  |
| 27/9/46.  | Hay Farm, Ombersley.                                | "                 | Unfit.  |
| 3/10/46.  | Evertons Stores, Ombersley.                         | "                 | Unfit.  |
| 6/11/46.  | Huddington Court.                                   | "                 | Unfit.  |
| 12/11/46. | Priest's Cottage, Huddington.                       | "                 | Unfit.  |
| 15/11/46. | New Housing Site, Crowle.                           | New Well.         | Fit.    |

#### 15. Sewerage & Sewage Disposal.

A considerable amount of time was again given up during the year to sifting information to assist the Council's consulting engineer in preparing detailed schemes for sewerage the village area of Crowle, Wychbold, Ombersley and Hartlebury.

16. Sewerage systems exist in the parishes of North Claines, Ombersley, Hartlebury and Dodderhill, but treatment is undertaken only in the case of North Claines, where a modern sewage disposal plant was laid down in 1938.





Satisfactory effluents were obtained during the year.

The Ombersley system, constructed in 1900, is in excellent condition, but provision for proper treatment is an urgent necessity.

The Hartlebury system is a piece-meal affair and a comprehensive scheme is long overdue. The latter remarks apply in the parishes of Dodderhill and Crowle.

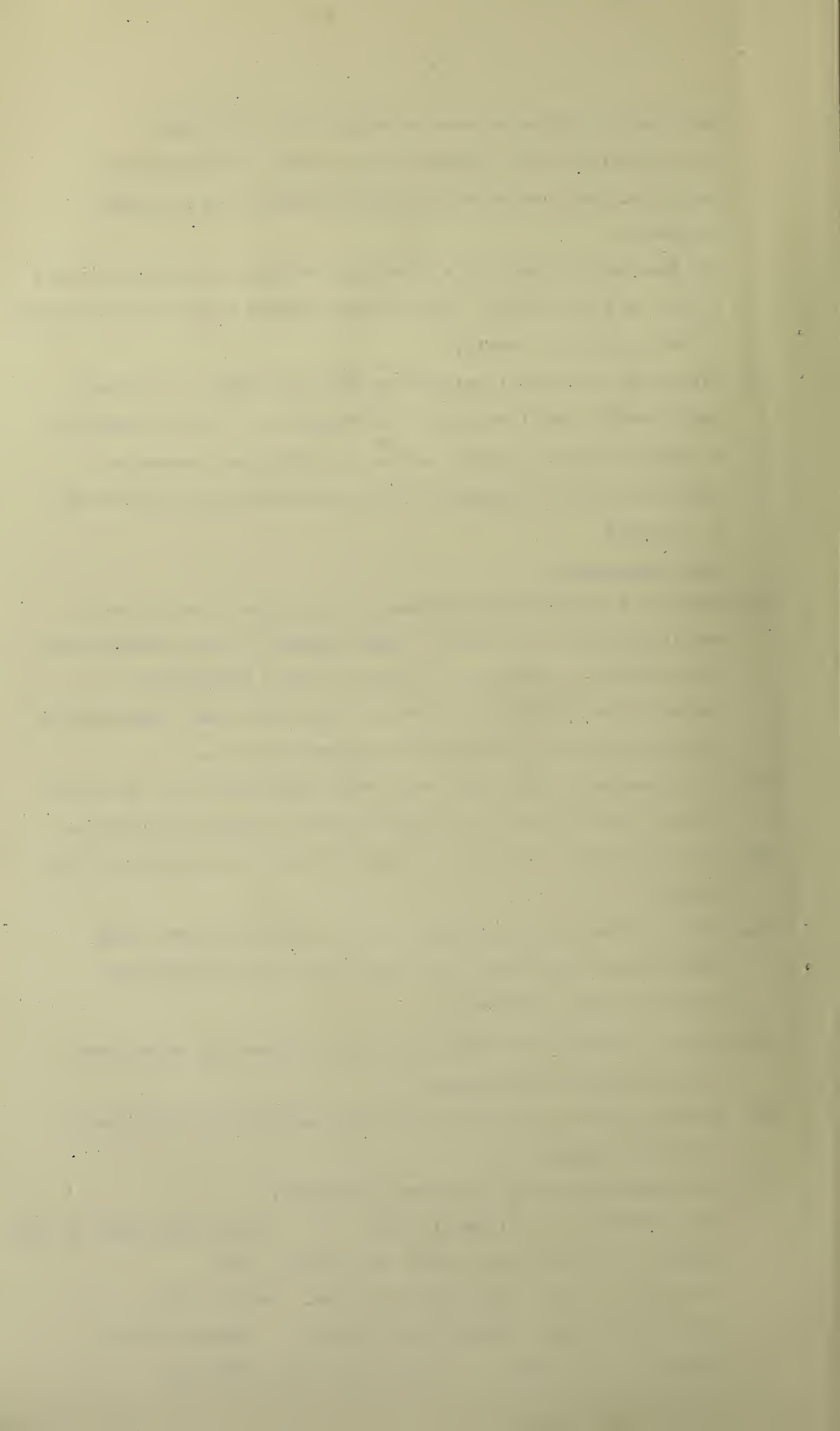
17. Cleansing and general maintenance was undertaken at the many small sewage installations in the district. The one situated at Waresley was a constant source of trouble and extensive reconstruction is necessary before a satisfactory effluent can be expected.

#### Food Inspection.

18. The four licenced slaughterhouses in the rural district were not in use during the year. Meat consumed in the district was drawn from the centralised Ministry of Food Abattoirs at Worcester and Kidderminster, where systematic meat inspection is carried out by the officers of those authorities.
19. The carcasses of three pigs which were slaughtered for emergency reasons were examined and passed as fit for human consumption.
20. Three licences to slaughter animals for food were renewed by the Council.
21. An inspection of the bakehouses of the district showed that these places were kept in good condition and that periodic limewashing was carried out.
22. Catering houses were inspected during the year and were found to be generally satisfactory.
23. Samples for the Food & Drugs Acts are collected by officers of the County Council.
24. Food condemned during the year comprised :—
 

|                        |                            |                           |
|------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Bacon 22 lbs.          | Figs 91 tins.              | Savory Fish Roll 32 tins. |
| Curried Beans 22 tins. | (small pea soup) 3 tins.   |                           |
| Beetroot 3 tins.       | Red Plum Jam 7 lbs.        | Sage 4 lbs.               |
| Currants 28½ lbs.      | Blanc Mange 260 lbs.       | Oatmeal 24 lbs.           |
| Ground Rice 176 lbs.   | Almond Substitute 25¾ lbs. |                           |





Savory Lunch 3 tins. Emergency Meal Biscuits 7 lbs.

Veg. beef soup 14 tins. Emergency Biscuits 6 tins.

25. Ice Cream.

On 8th October 1946 regulations were made by the Minister of Health under the Food & Drugs Act 1938 to protect the public from risk of infection through the consumption of ice cream. Under the regulations, premises have to be inspected and registered.

26. Registrations required by the Milk & Dairies Regulations were as follows :-

|                        |     |     |      |
|------------------------|-----|-----|------|
| Registered Dairy Farms | ... | ... | 166. |
| " Producers            | ... | ... | 144. |
| " Purveyors            | ... | ... | 71.  |

27. The following licences issued by the County Council to producers of designated milk with the rural district were in force at the 31st December 1946.

|                        |     |     |     |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| Accredited Milk        | ... | ... | 32. |
| Tuberculin Tested Milk | ... | ... | 12. |

The following licences were issued under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations by the Council.

|  |     |     |    |
|--|-----|-----|----|
| Principal Pasteurisers Licences                | ... | ... | 2. |
| Dealers for Tuberculin Tested Milk             | ... | ... | 3. |
| Accredited Milk                                | ... | ... | 1. |
| Supplementary licence to sell Pasteurised Milk | ... | ... | 5. |

28. The work of persuading milk producers to qualify for production of designated milk was carried on and I am pleased to report that the number of such producers is growing steadily.

29. Following a succession of unsatisfactory samples the Council caused one retail purveyor of milk to appear before them to show cause why his name should not be removed from the register.

After careful consideration of all the facts of the case, it was decided to remove his name from the register.



30. The appointed day for transfer of responsibility for milk production from local authorities to the Minister of Agriculture under the terms of the Food & Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act 1944 was again deferred.

In an important milk producing area such as this, it is essential that every effort should be made to maintain the high standard obtained and a great deal of work was undertaken to this end.

It is only fair, however, to say that the present position regarding responsibility for control of production is an unsatisfactory state of affairs for all concerned.

Refuse Collection & Disposal.

31. Collection of household refuse is carried out by the Council in the whole of the district. Collection is made by the Council employees using hired vehicles.

Collection periods of two weeks in the village areas and four weeks in outside areas are aimed at.

32. Disposal of refuse is by controlled tipping with the use of clinker as covering material.

33. The following figures relate to the cost of refuse collection and disposal during the last four financial years ending 31st March.

|                  | 1943-44. | 1944-45. | 1945-46. | 1946-47 |
|------------------|----------|----------|----------|---------|
|                  | £.       | £.       | £.       | £.      |
| Hire of Vehicles | 1872.    | 2301.    | 2470.    | 2440.   |
| Wages            | 618.     | 821.     | 911.     | 1096.   |
| Totals           | 2490.    | 3122.    | 3381.    | 3536.   |



34. Salvage is collected in conjunction with refuse collection.

The amounts collected and sold are as follows :-

| Material.   | Weight.     |       |      |      | Value. |     |      |
|-------------|-------------|-------|------|------|--------|-----|------|
|             | Tons.       | Cwts. | Qrs. | Lbs. | £.     | s.  | d.   |
| Waste Paper | 18.         | 17.   | 1.   | —.   | 122.   | 12. | 6.   |
| Bones       | 1.          | 6.    | —.   | —.   | 7.     | 11. | 9.   |
| Iron        | 7.          | 14.   | —.   | —.   | 19.    | 2.  | 11.  |
| Textiles    | 1.          | —.    | —.   | —.   | 16.    | 12. | 3.   |
| Bottles     | 157½ dozen, |       |      |      | 10.    | 10. | 4½.  |
| Totals.     | 28.         | 17.   | 1.   | —.   | £176.  | 8.  | 11½. |

35. A total of 34 licences to store petroleum spirit were issued or renewed during the year.

I most heartily thank the Council and my colleagues for their support and the staff for their loyal help during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman & Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. F. FRY.

Surveyor & Senior Sanitary Inspector.

